



## ecology and environment, inc.

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International Specialists in the Environmental Sciences

DATE: March 3, 1983  
TO: File/USEPA Region V  
FROM: Paul D. Shea  
SUBJECT: Preliminary Assessment  
Illinois/TDD#RO5-8212-01A-122  
Joliet/Caterpillar Tractor Company  
ILD005070537

*Review*

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



300725

Attached is EPA's Preliminary Assessment Form 2070-12 for the above referenced site.

Primary information was gathered from the following source(s):

1. USEPA Erris files
- 2.
- 3.

Information indicates the following responsible parties should be listed. They are listed here because of space limitations:

1. None
- 2.
- 3.

Presently, data gaps or no verification exists in the following key area(s):

1. Waste quantity
2. Groundwater/surface water/soil contamination
3. Contamination/damage to biota

A review of the available data indicates that additional information will be necessary to assess the impact(s) on:

1. Waste quantity
2. Groundwater
3. Surface water
- 4.
- 5.

Suggested methods/sources for obtaining additional information are:

1. On site inspection
2. Off site inspection
3. Sampling

Notice of an apparent need for emergency action was transmitted to N/A on N/A by N/A.



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE  
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT  
PART 1 - SITE INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT

1 IDENTIFICATION  
01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER  
IL 0005070537

II. SITE NAME AND LOCATION

01 SITE NAME (Legal common or descriptive name of site) <b>CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO. JOLIET PLANT</b>		02 STREET, ROUTE NO., OR SPECIFIC LOCATION IDENTIFIER <b>ROUTE 6, CHANNAHON ROAD</b>			
03 CITY <b>JOLIET</b>	04 STATE <b>IL</b>	05 ZIP CODE <b>60434</b>	06 COUNTY <b>WILL</b>	07 COUNTY CODE <b>197</b>	08 CONG. DIST. <b>17</b>
09 COORDINATES LATITUDE <b>41° 40' 34.0"</b> LONGITUDE <b>088° 08' 07.5"</b>		TOPO MAP: <b>CHANNAHON QUAD. *</b> <b>JOLIET QUAD.</b>			
10 DIRECTIONS TO SITE (Starting from nearest public road) <b>I-55 TO ROUTE 6 NORTH, GO ABOUT 4 MILES AND TURN RIGHT, OR FOLLOW ROUTE 6 SOUTHWEST OUT OF JOLIET. CHANNAHON ROAD AND TURN SOUTH TO SITE - CATERPILLAR TRACTOR</b>					

III. RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

01 OWNER (If known) <b>CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO.</b>		02 STREET (Business, making residential) <b>ROUTE 6, CHANNAHON ROAD</b>			
03 CITY <b>JOLIET</b>	04 STATE <b>IL</b>	05 ZIP CODE <b>60434</b>	06 TELEPHONE NUMBER <b>(815) 729-5511</b>		
07 OPERATOR (If known and different from owner) <b>MR. GREGORY M. WERNERT ENV. CTRL. ENG.</b>		08 STREET (Business, making residential) <b>ROUTE 6, CHANNAHON ROAD</b>			
09 CITY <b>JOLIET</b>		10 STATE <b>IL</b>	11 ZIP CODE <b>60434</b>	12 TELEPHONE NUMBER <b>(815) 729-5319</b>	
13 TYPE OF OWNERSHIP (Check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/> B. FEDERAL <input type="checkbox"/> C. STATE <input type="checkbox"/> D. COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> E. MUNICIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> F. OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> G. UNKNOWN					

14 OWNER/OPERATOR NOTIFICATION ON FILE (Check all that apply):  
☒ A. RCRA 3001 DATE RECEIVED **8/12/80** MONTH DAY YEAR  
☒ B. UNCONTROLLED WASTE SITE (RCRA 103 c) DATE RECEIVED **6/9/81** MONTH DAY YEAR  
☐ C. NONE

IV. CHARACTERIZATION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD

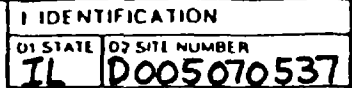
01 ON SITE INSPECTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES DATE <b>2/28/82</b> MONTH DAY YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> NO		BY (Check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. EPA <input type="checkbox"/> B. EPA CONTRACTOR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. STATE <input type="checkbox"/> D. OTHER CONTRACTOR <input type="checkbox"/> E. LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL <input type="checkbox"/> F. OTHER CONTRACTOR NAME(S):	
02 SITE STATUS (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. ACTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> B. INACTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> C. UNKNOWN		03 YEARS OF OPERATION BEGINNING YEAR <b>1951</b> ENDING YEAR <b>1969</b> <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN	
04 DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANCES POSSIBLY PRESENT, KNOWN, OR ALLEGED <b>HEAVY METALS (TOXIC, PERSISTENT) ACIDS (TOXIC, CORROSIVE)</b> <b>ORGANICS (TOXIC, PERSISTENT) BASES</b> <b>INORGANICS (PERSISTENT, LOW TOXIC) SOLVENTS (TOXIC, PERSISTENT, VOLATILE)</b>			
05 DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD TO ENVIRONMENT AND/OR POPULATION <b>LEACH INTO GROUNDWATER (ENVIRONMENT + POPULATION)</b> <b>RUNOFF INTO SURFACE WATER (ENVIRONMENT + POPULATION)</b>			

V. PRIORITY ASSESSMENT

01 PRIORITY FOR INSPECTION (Check one. If high or medium is checked, complete Part 2 - Waste Information and Part 3 - Description of Hazardous Conditions and Incidents)  
☐ A. HIGH (Inspection required promptly) ☐ B. MEDIUM (Inspection required) ☐ C. LOW (Inspection on time available basis) ☐ D. NONE (No further action needed, complete current disposition form)

VI. INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM

01 CONTACT <b>MR. KEN BECHELV</b> <b>MR. JAY PITEL</b>	02 OF (Agency/Organization) <b>ILLINOIS EPA, MAYWOOD</b>	03 TELEPHONE NUMBER <b>312-345-9780</b>		
04 PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSMENT	05 AGENCY	06 ORGANIZATION	07 TELEPHONE NUMBER <b>( )</b>	08 DATE <b>1/1</b> MONTH DAY YEAR



## 03 WASTE CHARACTERISTICS (Check all that apply)

- ☒ I HIGHLY VOLATILE  
☐ J EXPLOSIVE  
☐ K REACTIVE  
☐ L INCOMPATIBLE  
☐ M NOT APPLICABLE



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE  
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

I. IDENTIFICATION

01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER  
IL D005070537

II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

01 ☒ A GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: >10,000

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

POTENTIAL LEACHING OF CONTAMINANTS FROM BURIED DRUMS  
INTO GROUNDWATER.

01 ☒ B SURFACE WATER CONTAMINATION

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: >10,000

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

RUNOFF AND/OR LEACHING OF BURIED CONTAMINATION INTO  
NEARBY SURFACE WATER - DES PLAINES RIVER.

01 ☐ C. CONTAMINATION OF AIR

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☐ D. FIRE/EXPLOSIVE CONDITIONS

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☐ E. DIRECT CONTACT

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☒ F. CONTAMINATION OF SOIL

03 AREA POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 400  
(ACRES)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

DRUMS BURIED IN SOIL.  
SPILLS AND LEAKAGE A POSSIBILITY.

01 ☒ G. DRINKING WATER CONTAMINATION

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: UNK

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

ASSUME THAT DRINKING WATER IS AFFECTED IF GROUNDWATER  
AQUIFER OF CONCERN BECOMES CONTAMINATED.

01 ☒ H. WORKER EXPOSURE/INJURY

03 WORKERS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: ≈ 50

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO WORKERS AND/OR CLEANUP  
CREW PRESENT ON SITE.

01 ☒ I. POPULATION EXPOSURE/INJURY

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: >10,000

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

POPULATION EXPOSURE THROUGH CONTACT WITH CONTAMINATED  
GROUNDWATER - DRINKING OR SURFACE WATER - RECREATION.



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE  
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

I. IDENTIFICATION

01 STATE **IL** 02 SITE NUMBER **D005070537**

II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS (Continued)

01 ☒ J. DAMAGE TO FLORA  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

ASSUMED IF CONTAMINATION HAS REACHED DES PLAINES  
RIVER WATERSHED.

01 ☒ K. DAMAGE TO FAUNA  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (include name(s) of species)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

REFER TO ITEM "J"

01 ☒ L. CONTAMINATION OF FOOD CHAIN  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

TOXIC, PERSISTENT CHEMICAL WASTE COULD  
POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATE AND BIOACCUMULATE IN FOOD CH.

01 ☒ M. UNSTABLE CONTAINMENT OF WASTES  
(Spills/runoffs/standing liquids/leaking drums)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 710,000

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

TOXIC WASTE BURIED IN DRUMS ON SITE.  
POTENTIAL SPILLAGE AND/OR LEAKAGE FROM DECAY OF DRUMS

01 ☐ N. DAMAGE TO OFFSITE PROPERTY  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ O. CONTAMINATION OF SEWERS, STORM DRAINS, WWTPs  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ P. ILLEGAL/UNAUTHORIZED DUMPING  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

05 DESCRIPTION OF ANY OTHER KNOWN, POTENTIAL, OR ALLEGED HAZARDS

NORLING FACTOR → 15

III. TOTAL POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 710,000

IV. COMMENTS

THE SITE HAS BEEN USED SINCE 1950 AS A MANUFACTURING FACILITY FOR CATERPILLAR.  
IT IS STILL IN USE TODAY. WASTE WAS GENERATED DURING NORMAL OPERATIONS OF SLUDGE  
CLEANOUT OF PROCESSES → CAUSTIC METAL CLEANING, CHROME PLATING + PRODUCT PAINTING  
OPERATIONS. WASTE WAS DISPOSED OF IN STEEL DRUMS - BURIED.

V. SOURCES OF INFORMATION (Cite specific references, e. g., state files, sample analysis, reports)

USEPA ERRIS FILE - REGION II, CHICAGO